

FAMILLE PIERRE USSEGLIO

CHÂTEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE

JEB DUNNUCK 90-92

2017 Domaine Pierre Usseglio & Fils Châteauneuf-du-Pape

The 2017 Châteauneuf-du-Pape includes slightly less Grenache than normal due to the dismal yields and is a rough blend of 55% Grenache, 25% Syrah, 15% Mourvèdre and the rest Cinsault that was 60% destemmed and aging 80% in foudre. It's more elegant than the 2016 and has a medium to full-bodied, balanced, classic style as well as outstanding notes of black cherries, dried herbs, loamy soil, licorice, and pepper. It will keep for 10-12 years.

When you consider what this estate has accomplished over the past two decades, it's easy to include Domaine Pierre Usseglio as not only one of the top addresses in Châteauneuf-du-Pape but in all of France as well. They have been on a sensational roll since 1998 and have yet to put a foot wrong. And that's apparent with these latest 2016s, which I believe are the best wines ever produced here. In addition to the Châteauneuf-du-Pape releases, the estate makes a fabulous Côtes du Rhône and Lirac, both of which over-deliver.

- Jeb Dunnuck (8/28/2018)

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